

## Public School Teacher As a Wage Earner

By REV. H. B. EGLESTON.

Personal interest in the work and workers of the public schools prompts the writer to send forth this practical article.

The teachers of the public schools are the immediate instruments of raising the educational standards, and it devolves upon them to keep it high.

An awakening of educational interest means an increasing demand upon the valuable time, the physical and mental energies and the scanty means of many educators. A just demand from employers should be met by a just and satisfactory reward to the employee.

Teachers of morals and manners, of mental and physical needs, deserve to be called more than, and are more than, mere wage-earners. They are embassadors of the outward and inward life. They are those that give dignity and character to the potter's clay. Children under the tuition of greater minds and stronger characters are as "clay in the hands of the potter," ready and waiting to be moulded into vessels of honor.

However, simply regarding the teacher as a wage-earner, there are several facts that suggest a larger compensation for service rendered, and first among these—

(1) Laborers are Worthy of Their Hire.

By this is meant not simply that they are worthy to receive the amount agreed to by the parties of the first part and the second part, but that they should receive the amount that their work merits. No one will deny the statement that public school teachers are poorly paid.

It is a fact that many coachmen and butlers and servants doing the most menial and undignified work, requiring no genius or skill or brain power, receive almost double the salary that is paid some of the public school teachers, whose beautiful characters are a benediction to the young, and whose able instruction gives dignity and force to the present and future life of diligent pupils.

Is character worth anything? Is fitness worth anything? Does fidelity count for anything? Does preparation amount to anything? Does mental alertness worth anything? Is not brain power the force that turns the wheels of progress? These questions are answered in the affirmative, we reply that qualification and application are usually found to be the possessions of the public school teachers, and that as laborers they are worthy to receive the amount that their work merits.

(2) By comparison it is found that the public school teachers are poorly paid. When we compare, even in a general way, the salaries of other men and women who live by the exercise of their brain and the work of their hands, we find that the public school teachers have not as many dollars and cents, by a good deal, as their disposal as other worthy laborers. The modern assistant to the physician, the indispensable woman in white, the invaluable trained nurse in the sick room, commands a salary of twenty-five dollars a week and all expenses. When we compare the salaries of the public school teachers, not having great originality nor a classical education, command a salary ranging from a hundred to a hundred and twenty-five dollars a month.

A skilful bookkeeper, not responsible for the exertion of a daily influence upon hundreds of minds and hearts, is given a compensation of from one hundred to two hundred dollars.

A house-builder, dealing in and laying mortar and brick, demands and receives five dollars a day, with short hours' work, fixed at his own pleasure, and no moral influence to tell on present or future generations.

A chemist, a young man twenty-eight years old, employed by the government in one of the navy yards of the South, receives a yearly salary of two thousand dollars, with thirty days' vacation, to be taken at his discretion, and his salary continues during his holiday.

Other instances might be brought to augment the point, but such as have been mentioned amply suffice.

The trained nurse, the stenographer, the bookkeeper, the bricklayer, the chemist, have not so great responsibility upon them as the public school teacher, yet the latter is by far more poorly paid.

These things ought not so to be. Let there be a more thorough equalization of wages on a descending scale. Upward! forward! is the plea—the earnest plea—and the moral command of those who are by wholesome instruction making the future homes and future government of our great republic.

(3) A responsible position demands a liberal compensation.

The public school teacher's position is a most responsible one.

(a) The eyes and the tongues of the critical patrons are constantly on the teacher. A heaven-born patience is required to deal, without partiality, with the various pupils of different mental strength and moral force and individual aptitude. If there is no partiality shown, the parents of the children are often found, either in their hearts or publicly, charging the teacher, who is "the observed of all observers," with favoritism, and if an other man's children are quick in hearing and ready in receiving the imparted information, the accusation is to the first parent's mind seems doubly true.

(b) The public school teacher's work is an unending task. They must work in season and out of season, summer and winter, night and day. They are required to read almost walking encyclopedias. They must read every book of modern and many of ancient times. They must know a little medicine, and a little law; they must understand music, and art, and athletics, and stenography, and bookkeeping; have a thorough knowledge of English literature and elocution; understand the sciences and philosophy and astronomy, and be familiar with ancient and modern languages.

When the reader weighs well the above statements he will realize that they are not exaggerations, and he will further realize that a popular and successful teacher, in order to have an intelligent acquaintance with the above subjects, must work, work, work!

(c) A public school teacher often has the responsibility of an aged mother or father, or a younger brother or sister, or both. These have to be supported, and the young man or the young woman is the only one to do it, and do it they must on a salary that is scarcely enough to give one the necessary things of life, to say nothing about any luxuries.

In some instances the poorly paid woman, ashamed to say publicly anything about it, has not enough, with several drawing her purse strings, to purchase the articles to give her comfort of body and comforts in her home.

The writer received a letter some weeks ago from a noble woman, a teacher in a public school, declaring that circumstances were such that she was compelled to cut herself off largely from her friends, much to her disappointment and sorrow.

The difficulty can and ought to be removed. The teachers of all schools ought to be rewarded for the responsibility of the positions to which they have been elevated.

(4) A faithful discharge of duty merits consideration and an increased compensation.

This point is made in view of what other organizations are constantly doing for their employees.

A bright and competent young man or young woman goes into a dry goods store, or insurance office, and works with marked fidelity and success. In recognition of worth, in some instances, the employer, unhesitatingly increases the salary. In due course of time another promotion in the way of compensation is made, and so on, until the young man or woman is above want, and able to lay aside each month a portion of what has been earned by honest, faithful toil.

This is repeatedly done for different classes of laborers, with much more frequency and zeal than for the teachers in the public schools. Why should not their honorable work, their faithful discharge of duty, be duly recognized and zealously rewarded? Why should not they realize the honor and wear the praise and obtain the prize to which they are entitled? No people, as a class, are more faithful than public school teachers.

(5) The public school teacher as a wage-earner should at this time receive greater remuneration because of the increased expenses of living. Articles of merchandise, wearing apparel, food and fuel have all leaped within the last year to a height that puts their possession beyond the easy reach of the small-salaried wage-earners.

Many business firms, realizing the emergency of the hour, have favored their employees with an increased emolument to keep them from feeling so keenly the sting of poverty, and to enable them to obtain the comforts of body, table and hearth.

At this period in the financial history of our cities and States the plea for justice, generosity and kindness should be heard with great interest and earnestness by those who hold the keys that unlock the doors of the vaults that contain the public's gold and silver.

Let not the rich forget the poor! Let not the employer forget the needs of the employee, and to answer the appeal for a larger compensation to meet the larger needs.

In concluding, let the writer say that the public school teacher is one of the most important factors in the life of a city or State or nation; that those who have the school work and school fund in charge should be moved to consider seriously and to act generously on their plea for an increase of their monthly remuneration.

There are many reasons for this, and perhaps none against it.

(1) The times are bright with educational fervor, and demand thoroughness of equipment and instruction, and to this end means must be furnished—yes, at increased means.

(2) The greater the output of public school funds the greater will be the public good if the funds are properly administered.

(3) Even a small increase over the present salary would be utilized for greater results.

(4) Every laborer is worthy of his hire; that is, every laborer is worthy to receive the amount that his work merits, and whosoever they be that demand more let them have their dues.

(5) Other organizations, whose employees are not so highly skilled, nor hold positions so responsible, are striving to show the liberal hand, and aiming to meet their needs.

(6) Assigning a task as is imposed upon the teacher of the young should be properly recognized and rewarded.

(7) A faithful discharge of arduous duties, year in and year out, merits certainly, by comparison, an increased compensation.

(8) At this period of greater expense for all necessary things of life, the appeal of the public school teacher for a larger sum for the emergency of the times should be graciously heard by those in authority, and should be answered in a way in keeping with necessity.

### You ought to KNOW

# Who Makes the Cigars You Smoke

Perhaps you never thought the matter of very much importance—but considered it enough to know the retailer from whom you bought.

But when you are repeatedly stung with poor cigars you cannot always blame the retailer—that isn't the way to avoid unreliable brands. Because that very same retailer probably carries in stock the best brands of cigars made—if you only ask for them.

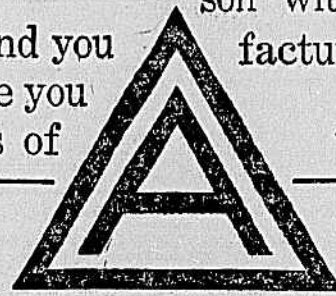
When you get a poor cigar—and you don't know who made it—how are you going to avoid the other brands of the same manufacture? Don't you see that there is no way to prevent dishonest or incompetent manufacturers from repeatedly imposing on you by offering you unidentified brands of different names?

The American Cigar Company stands back of its brands with a responsible guarantee of their quality. We stamp the boxes of our standard brands with our Triangle A merit mark so you can immediately distinguish them wherever you go.

Then we invite you—even urge you—to go to any store and ask for any one of our Triangle A brands—then judge it strictly on its merits in critical comparison with the cigars of any other manufacture sold you at the same price.

Isn't that a square deal?

Do you know any other cigar manufacturer who stands back of his product in the same unmistakable way and on the same responsible basis, with as plain a guarantee of value?



The NEW  
**CREMO**

is convincing evidence of the improved quality which the Triangle A guarantees. Every box is extra-wrapped in glassine paper to keep the cigars clean, fresh and in perfect smoking condition.

AMERICAN CIGAR COMPANY Manufacturer

## HOUSES WANTED BY GOOD RENTERS

Significant Advertisement That Tells a Story Worthy of the Attention of Capitalists.

Richmond is undoubtedly outgrowing itself in certain ways, and it would appear from a significant advertisement of a well-known and reliable real estate firm, which may be seen this morning in the advertising department of this paper, that there is not enough building going on here. The demand for homes on the part of renters is greater than the supply, and some of the Richmond money that is seeking investment must go into bricks and mortar or the commercial and industrial growth of this city will be retarded. That the eyes of manufacturers are turned toward this city is evidenced by the demand for homes for the men who want to come here to conduct industrial enterprises.

It will be seen by reference to the advertising column that Messrs. J. Thompson Brown & Co. want at once thirty homes in certain parts of the city. The houses wanted range from a house renting for \$5 per month to a high-grade residence commanding a rent of \$3,000 per annum.

These houses are wanted for the families of men who want to come here to operate new enterprises. The small houses are needed for negro hands, the medium ones for white operatives, skilled workmen, foremen, superintendents, etc., and the high-grade dwellings for heads of new establishments and others who are locating here, or want to locate here if they can find a home to live in.

Another significant fact in connection with this advertisement is the location required. This tends to show that the West End is on the eve of great development.

The agents advertising for more houses assure The Times-Dispatch of an absolute and immediate demand for the thirty homes they want. They express the fear that unless they are speedily provided the future may have a depressing effect upon the location in Richmond of big industries that want to come here and start up in the vicinity named.

Calculating on the basis of five persons to a family, the demand set forth in the advertisement of Messrs. Brown & Co. would bring to Richmond one hundred and fifty persons, who, because of regular employment at good pay-rates, would add largely to the business of the merchants.

There are daily developments that greater Richmond is yet too much congested, and the demand still exists for the organization of a big company that will build houses for rent.

### Coming to Richmond.

The residence of the late Oscar Cranz, No. 201 East Grace Street, has been sold by Sutton & Co. and H. S. Seldon Taylor & Co. for \$15,000. Mr. Cranz, of Abingdon, Va., was the purchaser. Mr. Cranz is a prominent business man of Southwest Virginia, being largely engaged in the lumber and mining business. He has decided to make Richmond his home, and that is why he purchased the elegant property at the corner of Second and Grace Streets. Mr. Cranz will move his family here in a few weeks.

### Call Rev. Mr. Soyars.

ROCKVILLE, VA., February 13.—Berea Baptist Church has extended a call to the Rev. F. O. Soyars of Richmond College, to become the pastor of the church. He has the call under consideration, and will make known his decision next Sunday, the 17th instant.

The three youngest children of Mr. T. M. Buryear continue quite sick with the whooping cough.

Miss Bessie Taylor, of Auburn Mills, spent last week visiting relatives near here.

Mr. W. P. Shelton has been quite sick for some time.

Mrs. S. C. Dietrich entertained a few friends Friday night in honor of her sister, Miss Bessie Taylor.

## ENTERTAINED THE VISITING MASONS

Children from the Masonic Home Held an Open Lodge Yesterday Afternoon.

One of the interesting features of what is known in the Masonic calendar as "Grand Lodge week" was the entertainment yesterday afternoon at the Masonic Temple, on Broad Street, by the children of the Masonic Home. The lodgeroom was filled with members of the Grand Lodge and visitors, among whom were many ladies.

The entertainment was in charge of Mrs. H. M. Barbour, the matron of the Home, and Past Master P. W. Siff, chairman of the committee on education and treasurer of the Home.

All of the children of the Home were grouped on the stage, and the literary and musical program they rendered delighted the large audience, which had assembled to hear it. The program consisted of musical selections, recitations and one dancing stunt by little Elbert Harris.

The audience showed its appreciation of the many good features of the entertainment by outbursts of applause, and then again, and in a more substantial way, by a freewill offering for the benefit of the Home, which amounted to \$12.

The collection was engineered by Past Grand Master Thomas N. Davis.

The entertainment was closed with the singing of "Dixie," and the audience joined in with the children on the stage, and the old Southern hymn was never sung better or more enthusiastically.

## The Celebrated STIEFF

Has More Friends Than Any Other

## Piano

In all the world. Of course there are other good pianos, but you can count them on your fingers, and of this little group of standard makes the "STIEFF" is the most popular, and has been for over half a century.

Chas. M. Stieff  
Established 1842  
205 E. Broad St.

L. B. Slaughter,  
Manager.

## INDICTED FOR WORKING OVERTIME

Eight Firms Violated Eight-Hour Labor Law.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, February 13.—The Federal grand jury to-day returned indictments against eight contracting companies and firms on the charge of violating the eight-hour labor law in connection with government work in this Federal district. The companies and firms indicted are as follows:

The Federal Constructing Company, of Albany, N. Y.; the Buckeye Company, of Cleveland; Patrick Keohan, of Indiana; Hughes Brothers and Bunge, Syracuse, N. Y.; United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company, Baltimore; L. P. and J. A. Smith, Cleveland; Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company, Jersey City, N. J.; and the Grant Lakes Construction Company, of Buffalo.

There are an average of five counts returned against each of the concerns named.

Cader Alvarez, of San Domingo, Was Seeking Education.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

BLACKSTONE, VA., February 13.—The body of young Alvarez, the V. P. I. cadet from San Domingo, who died at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute in a fire Sunday night, was sent to New York on the 4 o'clock train yesterday afternoon and from there will be shipped to his native land for burial.

A general service was held in the institute auditorium at 8 o'clock, conducted by the Rev. Father White, of Wytheville, according to the rites of the Catholic Church, of which the deceased was a member. This service was attended by the entire student body, the members of the faculty and their families, with a number of the people of the community. The musical club rendered the music and the officiating priest delivered a brief funeral sermon.

At the conclusion of the service the corps of cadets, headed by their band, and accompanied by the entire faculty and the chaplains of the institute, marched to the station, where the body was put aboard the train and began the long journey to its final resting place in far-away San Domingo.

Alvarez only entered the institute in January, and seemed full of enthusiasm for gaining an education and living for the future in this new country, of which he had heard so much. It seems particularly sad for this reason that he was fated to end his days so soon among strangers. Every attention possible, however, was shown him in his illness by the nurses at the infirmary and the institute surgeon and his fellow-countrymen, who are students here, were untiring in their efforts to help him.

DUCK HUNT FATAL.

Gun Discharges, Entire Load Entering Colored Man's Body.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

SUFFOLK, VA., February 13.—While returning from a duck-hunting trip last night, Andrew Hawkins, in removing a shotgun from the boat, accidentally discharged the piece, whose entire charge entered his stomach. His wounds are pronounced fatal.

Since a new law has been in the service of County Treasurer S. T. Ellis since the latter's childhood, and was coachman for Mrs. Ellis before her marriage, he is sixty years old. Suffolk physicians to-day were called in consultation with the local doctors.

## VETERANS ELATED BY ACTION OF COUNCIL

Fund Being Raised by Subscription is Growing Steadily Every Day.

Contributions to the Confederate Reunion fund did not come in quite so rapidly as usual yesterday, but inasmuch as the Board of Aldermen on Tuesday night concurred in the action of the Common Council, which voted \$20,000 to the old soldiers, the veterans, on the whole, are fairly well satisfied.

The canvassing committee up to this writing have raised \$12,207.75, which, combined with the city's appropriation, makes a total of \$22,207.75 in sight. Nearly \$12,000 is still needed and the "Jonny Rebs" are determined to get it, no matter how much hard work is required.

Yesterday's contributions were as follows:

Harvey Blair & Company.....	\$ 30.00
Tarrant, Grant & Company.....	4.00
Mann & Brown.....	10.00
Hopkins Furniture Company.....	30.00
Simon Sytle.....	5.00
J. B. Wood.....	2.00
A. M. Cannon.....	30.00
S. E. Duggins.....	5.00
J. L. Johnson.....	1.00
Lovely & Kane.....	2.50
E. A. Dietrich.....	5.00
Nathan Cohen.....	1.00
Stephen Putney Shoe Company.....	50.00
<b>Total to date.....</b>	<b>\$12,207.75</b>
Previously acknowledged.....	<b>12,000.00</b>

It begins to look now as if the city will have to entertain at least 10,000 old soldiers who will be totally dependent on Richmond's hospitality. Hundreds, yes, thousands, of other ex-Confederates will pay all their own expenses while here.

CHICAGO, ILL., February 13.—Six witnesses, four of them newspaper men, who were examined up to noon to-day in the hearing of charges against Sheriff Shipp of contempt of the United States Supreme Court, testified that in their opinion the mob which lynched Ed Johnson, colored, was not expected until the following night.

Shipp is blamed for not suppressing the mob. A woman prisoner swore that she was told this some time before the mob appeared.

Much stress is placed upon the delivery or non-delivery to Shipp in March, 1906, of a telegram from the clerk of the Supreme Court announcing that pending an appeal, Johnson was a Federal prisoner.

YOUNG GOULD TOO FAST FOR LORILLARD AT COURT TENNIS

TUXEDO PARK, N. Y., February 13.—Young Jay Gould made a show of his opponent, Pierre Lorillard, Jr., in the final contest for the gold racquet emblem of the championship at court tennis here to-day. Although Lorillard really put up a strong game, he was so far outclassed by the Georgian Court farmer that he looked like a novice. Gould won three straight games, the score being as follows: 6-0, 6-3, 6-4.

In the final at racquets for the gold racquet championship, George H. Brook, ex-champion of the Racquet Club of Philadelphia, defeated George L. Wrenn of the New York Tennis and Racquet Club, in three straight games, and will now meet Clarence H. Mackay, the present amateur champion. Mackay holds two legs on the \$500 trophy, having won title to it in 1905 and 1906. The score was 1-0, 1-0, 1-0.

Payne Whitney acted as referee. Brook will meet Mackay on February 17th.

## High-Grade Furniture

Offered at 30c, 40c to 50c on the Dollar

Clearing prices for MONDAY THAT MUST MAKE YOU BUY. We are sincere in our endeavors to sell out—we mean business. If one price won't find a purchaser another and lower one will. Now we have reached the supreme effort, don't let inclement weather, snow or rain, deter you from coming here to-morrow. Doors open 9:15 o'clock Monday morning.

Chas. G. JURGENS' Son,

419-421 Broad Street.

Notice the Great Green Banners in front explaining all.



## Insomnia

is generally caused by exhaustion of the nerve forces. Revive, rebuild and replenish them. Don't use dangerous drugs to do it, but try

## Fehr's Malt Tonic

It enters the system through the blood, and feeds the nerve centers with the food they need. A simple combination of health-building and nerve-making foods. It soothes like a mother's voice at the cradle side. You will awake in the morning with a rested body and a clear mind.

FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS

FEHR'S MALT TONIC DEPT., Louisville, Ky.